

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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USIA-15 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 COME-00

EA-11 DRC-01 /126 W

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R 121110Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7410

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 0123

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT----NUMBERED PARA 3)

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RO, UR

SUBJ: ROMANIAN PROBLEMS WITH USSR

REFS: A) PARIS 803 B) MOSCOW 5361 C) BUCHAREST 083 (NOTAL)

1. LIKE ROMANIAN COUNSELLOR BOZHIANU (REF A), WE DOUBT THAT SHORTENING OF CEAUSESCU'S TRIP TO US WAS CAUSED BY FEARS OVER MOSCOW IDEOLOGICAL MEETING (REF B), ALTHOUGH SUCH FEARS CLEARLY EXIST AND REMAINDER OF MOSCOW SOURCE'S STATEMENT SEEMED PLAUSIBLE AND OF GREAT INTEREST. BARRING ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE TO CONTRARY, WE ARE NOW INCLINED TO ACCEPT ROMANIAN ASSURANCES TO US AT VARIOUS LEVELS INCLUDING SENIOR OFFICIALS DURING CEAUSESCU TRIP, THAT HEAVY BUT NON-CRISIS WORKLOAD, PARTICULARLY INTERNAL ECONOMIC MATTERS, PERSUADED HIM TO RETURN EARLY.

2. AS REGARDS BOZHIANU'S STATEMENT THAT GOR WOULD OPPOSE COMMUNIST CONFERENCE BECAUSE OF ANTI-CHINESE THRUST, LINE WE GET HERE IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT. ROMANIANS OBVIOUSLY
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WOULD PREFER THAT NO CONFERENCE BE HELD, BUT THEY SAY THEY WILL

NOT OPPOSE ONE AND WOULD ATTEND AS LONG AS TWO CONDITIONS MET OF
(1) NOT CONDEMNING ABSENT PARTIES (CHINESE) AND (2) NOT COERCING
PARTICIPANTS INTO COORDINATED IDEOLOGICAL POSITIONS.
AS NOTED IN REF C, SOVIET AMBASSADOR HAS INDICATED HERE THAT
CONFERENCE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE HELD IN MOSCOW, WHICH MAY
INDICATE THAT SOVIETS ARE WILLING TO SHOW SOME FLEXIBILITY WITH
INDEPENDENTS.

3. SOVIETS HERE, INCIDENTALLY, ARE PUTTING OUT SONSISTENT LINE
LATELY THAT THEIR RELATIONS WITH ROMANIANS ARE FINE (E.G.
AMBASSADOR'S CHARACTERIZATION AT JAN 9 PRESS CONFERENCE OF
"SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF TIES OF FRATERNAL FRIENDSHIP AND MANY-
SIDED COLLABORATION").
AT LEAST SOME ROMANIANS, WHO ADMITTED PROBLEMS WITH SOVIETS
IN OCTOBER OVER ME, HAVE TALKED OF TENSIONS SUBSIDING. WE DO
NOT THINK THAT TENSIONS HAVE SUBSIDED SUBSTANTIALY, PARTICU-
LARLY ON IDEOLOGICAL FRONT, BUT IT IS INTERESTING THAT BOTH
SIDES AT MOMENT ARE NOT TALKING UP THEIR DIFFERENCES ON
OVERT LEVEL.

4. WE AGREE THAT IMPETUS FOR GIEREK VISIT (PARA 5, REF A)
COMES FROM ROMANIAN SIDE AND THAT POLES HAVE BEEN DRAGGING THEIR
FEET. WE ALSO AGREE THAT LACK OF AGREEMENT ON MULTILATERAL
ISSUES IS ONE STUMBLING BLOCK, ALTHOUGH OTHER IMPEDIMENT
IS LACK OF STRONG BILATERAL ECONOMIC INCENTIVE, WHICH POLES
HERE CITED AS CONSIDERATION EARLIER WHEN FIRST ATTEMPTS TO
ARRANGE VISIT WERE EVIDENT.
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